



NEWSLETTER

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Monastic Training Benefitting children

The training is a great opportunity for children to learn the Buddhist values, and how to live a meaningful life so that they can lead change in their lives and their communities. During the practice, children have a taste of monk's life, cultivate spiritual qualities, and share their practice to transform others. Children are also inspired to walk with mindfulness and freedom.

We admit children who are between the age of 12-18, and who get consent from their parents. Once admitted on the program, children are given white robes to wear during their training and scrupulously observe eight precepts (*abstain from killing, abstain from stealing, abstain from sexual misconduct, abstain from false speech, abstain from intoxicants, abstain from taking food after noon, abstain from high garlands, or wearing ornaments, and abstain from sleeping on high and luxurious beds*). Children not only learn the Buddhist culture, but also a practice that they apply to transform their suffering and develop in compassion.

Currently, we have 10 children under training adorning white robes.



Once children are ordained as novice monks, their training focuses on monastic life and how to live a peaceful and joyful life in a community. This training has three pillars; practice, study, and work. Participants are reminded to ardently exert mindful breathing, eating, walking, listening to the bell, sweeping.

Plans are underway to construct a Buddhist primary school so that these children can attain both secular (based on national curriculum) and monastic education.

Construction of Parking Lot

In our previous newsletter, we reported about the need to pave our parking lot. We are glad to bring you the news that with your support, the work has been accomplished in February 2021.

The parking was graded, covered with compacted marram and finally with asphalt. This parking is very essential for the Temple as it will ensure visitors with cars have enough space to park their cars safely. A pathway stretching from the gate up to the meditation hall was also paved to allow smoothness for those who remove their shoes during their visit to the temple. We kindly request all our visitors to park at the designated parking lot so that we can keep and maintain the meditation area silent and serene.



Constructing the First Buddhist Primary School in Uganda

The aim is to create a new form of education that can be a model for Uganda and other African countries, firmly based on the principles of Buddhism including ethical practice and mindfulness.

The proposed system embodies a new approach to education that responds to the conditions and needs of contemporary African societies, specifically in Uganda within a clear Buddhist ethos.

Obuntu (or Ubuntu) is a term that is common throughout much of Africa and which is gaining increasing levels of exposure and recognition, principally through the writings of Bishop Desmond Tutu. It is a concept that is difficult to define precisely, but is based on a recognition of our common humanity and mutual interdependence. It has a quality that is resonant of traditional African communities and, when used to describe an individual, denotes wisdom, kindness and a self-confidence. These principles are clearly in harmony with Buddhist teachings, and the aim will be to combine Buddhism and Obuntu principles as the philosophical basis of the education programme at the school.



Learning CIRCLE

The learning circle is based on the following factors:

C: Conscience - encouraging children to develop a strong individual and social conscience

I: Integrity - recognising and respecting one's own, and each other's, unique gifts and qualities

R: Responsibility - Taking individual and collective responsibility for improving one's own life and the life of the community

C: Care and compassion: for all people and the world we share

L: Love of learning - nurturing a sense of wonder and excitement about the world and the world of ideas

E: Entrepreneurship: building the confidence and creativity to develop practical solutions and create new enterprises



The first phase of the school construction was to excavate the site and provide access to safe and clean water.

The next phase is to lay bricks while engaging consultants to produce architectural and structural drawings. The drawings will then be approved by the town council authority, and be followed by the actual construction.

We are very grateful to all our beloved supporters especially Mr. Tho Nguyen and the Directors of Smile to Smile Foundation from USA for their generous donation towards this project.

You are welcome to support us in this project to make it a reality.

Gratitude to All Our Supporters

UBC activities are made possible by many supporters from around the world. Therefore, we are eternally grateful for your kind and generous donations.

UBC still needs your support:

- To maintain resident teachers/monastics
- To maintain the Temple
- To run Buddhist activities
- To build monks accommodation facilities

How to donate:

1. Donate online:

Please follow the links below to make a secure donation online:

<https://ugandabuddhistcenter.org>

<https://xpresspay.ug/payments/ugandabuddhistcentre/index.html>

<https://dashboard.flutterwave.com/donate/hd1cwapst9gc>

Please note that this payment gateway accepts 3D secure transactions only. This means that only cards that are Verified by Visa, and Master secure code will be accepted. If your donation doesn't go through, kindly contact your bank to ensure you are secured. Thank you!

2. wire transfer

Beneficiary's Bank Details:

Bank Name : Orient Bank Limited

Bank Account Number: 41261302010523

Bank Account Name: Uganda Buddhist Centre

Swift Address: ORINUGKA

Bank Address: Orient Plaza, 6/6A, Kampala Road.

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